

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 CIEP-02 SAL-01 SS-14 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-03

USIA-12 PRS-01 L-03 H-02 INT-08 AGR-20 COA-02 RSR-01

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TAGS: OCON, ECLA, EC

SUBJECT: 15 TH SESSION ECLA: PLENARY

1. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY ECLA PLENARY A. M. MARCH 24:

1. GATT REP. STRESSED IMPORTANCE ECLA DISCUSSION FORTHCOMING MTN, RECOUNTED EFFORTS OF GATT SECRETARIAT TO ASSIST LDC' S IN PREPARATIONS AND EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE THAT NEGOTIATIONS RESULT IN ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO LDC' S.

2. CUBA (PELEGRIN TORRAS, VICE MINISTER FOREIGN RELATIONS) IN SHORT RELATIVELY RESTRAINED SPEECH, RECALLED HISTORIS EFFORTS OF US IMPERIALISM TO ISOLATE CUBA FROM REST OF HEMISPHERE. NOTED THAT IN 1962 LA' S WERE FORCED TO OBEY U. S. ORDERS PREVENTING CUBAN PARTICIPATION IN OAS. HOWEVER, CUBA NEVER FELT ISOLATED SINCE MEXICO AND PEOPLES OF HEMISPHERE REMAINED SYMPATHETIC. SITUATION HAS NOW CHANGED. CHILE HAS TAKEN ROAD TO INDEPENDENCE. OTHER LA' S HAVE GRADUALLY RESUMED TIES WITH CUBA. HOPED OTHER COUNTRIES (MENTIONING ECUADOR) WOULD INCREASE RELATIONS. NOW IT UNCLASSIFIED

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IS US THAT IS ISOLATED. LATEST EXAMPLES OF US ISOLATION ARE MEETINGS OF SC IN PANAMA AND OF IAECOSOC IN BOGOTA. AT LATTER MEETING US FOUND SELF INCAPABLE OF ACCEPTING RESULTS OR OF PREVENTING IMPORTANT DECISIONS TAKEN AGAINST ITS WISHES. POINTED TO ECLA AS ONE OF FEW INDEPENDENT ENTITIES WHICH DID NOT SUCCUMB TO US IMPERIALIST EFFORTS (AS CONTRASTED WITH ANACHRONISTIC OAS). CUBA GRATEFUL TO ECLA FOR GIVING IT A FORUM WHEN ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO MUZZLE CUBA ELSEWHERE. HE CAME CLOSE TO EMBRACING SANTA CRUZ' IDEA OF SEPARATE LA ORGANIZATION.

3. BOLIVIA (PRADO SALMON, MINISTER SECRETARY OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND PLANNING COUNCIL). WANTS ECLA' S HELP IN FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH DC' S. REFERRED TO DISCOURAGING SITUATION IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE WITH BARRIERS AND RESTRICTIONS VS. LDC' S. TRADE RELATIONS WITH US FAR FROM PROMISING. GOB PARTICULARLY CONCERNED AT RECENT US DECISION TO DISPOSE OF TIN RESERVES. THIS UNJUSTIFIABLE AND NOT IN ACCORD WITH US PROMISES TO CONSULT. BOLIVIA ESPECIALLY AGGRIEVED SINCE AS GESTURE SUPPORT TO US DURING 1940' S IT HAD HELPED US ACCUMULATE RESERVES. EXPRESSED HOPE SITUATION WOULD BE CORRECTED. SATISFACTORY ACCESS TO SEA STILL SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR BOLIVIA, SINCE SEA SHOULD BE PATRIMONY OF ALL.

4. VENEZUELA (SUELA ARANDA, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR CORDIPLAN). ALSO JOINED IN CRITICIZING DETERIORATING TERMS OF TRADE, WHICH IMPEDES INDUSTRIALIZATION. HAPPILY TRADITIONAL CONCEPTS OF INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR ARE NOW BEING SUCCESSFULLY CHALLENGED. IN THIS PROCESS ECLA HAS PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING LA COUNTRIES. ECLA WILL BE EVEN MORE IMPORTANT IN FUTURE IN HELPING COUNTRIES RECONQUER THEIR ECONOMIC SOVEREIGNTY.

5. GUYANA (HOPE, MINISTRY FINANCE AND TRADE) GAVE LENGTHY COMPREHENSIVE, CLEAR STATEMENT OF GUYANA' S MEASURES TO DEVELOP ITS ECONOMY. HE EMPHASIZED SELF- HELP MEASURES, ACTION TO SEE THAT BENEFITS OF EXPLOITATION OF ITS RESOURCES GO TO THE PEOPLE; STEPS TO GAIN CONTROL AND OWNERSHIP OF NATIONAL RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT OF EXPORTS WITH OTHER TRADING AREAS. SPOKE AT LENGTH RE FORTHCOMING MTN AND INTERNATIONAL MONETARY NEGOTIATIONS.

6 . SANZ DE SANTAMARIA (CIAP). POINTED TO IMPORTANT SHIFT IN POST-WAR ATTITUDE IN 1947-8 FROM US PREOCCUPATION WITH EUR RECOVERY TO INCREASED ATTENTION TO LA ECONOMIC MATTERS, WITH CREATION ECLA,
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AND IAECOSOC, LEADING FINALLY TO ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS. AS FOR

FUTURE, WE NOW ENTERING NEW ERA, HISTORIC JUNCTION, AS IMPORTANT AS 1947 PERIOD. IT NOW VITAL TO ADAPT EXISTING ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS TO PRESENT NEEDS. OLD ORGANIZATION UNSUITABLE, AND OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS. IT IMPORTANT FOR LA TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MACHINERY, AS HE HAS PREVIOUSLY POINTED OUT. IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER, HE IS PREPARING PLANS FOR IMPROVING DEVELOPMENT MACHINERY FOR CONTINENT WHICH HE PLANS PRESENT IN NEAR FUTURE. PLEDGED FULLEST COOPERATION WITH ECLA.

7. MEXICO REFERRED TO MEXICO'S PROPOSAL AT 14 TH ECLA MEETING FOR NEW STRATEGY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO ACHIEVE FAIRER DISTRIBUTION AND GREATER ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE OF LA. DDII OFFERS GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR LA PROVIDED THEY STRENGTHEN OWN UNITY. REFERRED TO RECENT CHANGES IN WORLD ECONOMIC AND TRADE SITUATION WITH RESULTING HARM TO LA. CHARGED THAT INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES DO NOT SUPPORT FULL PARTICIPATION OF THIRD WORLD IN MAJOR INTERNATIONAL DECISIONS. HE EMPHASIZED NEED TO ADOPT CHARTER ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT ECHEVARRIA. EMPHASIZED THAT FUTURE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING MUST BE MORE HEAVILY ORIENTED TOWARD SOCIAL WELFARE GOALS. IN ORDER TO FIGHT LA DEPENDENCE ON RICH COUNTRIES, THERE IS GREAT NEED FOR LA ECONOMIC INTEGRATION. PRAISED ANDEAN PACT. URGED THAT LAFTA BE STRENGTHENED. PLEADGED MEXICO'S SUPPORT TOWARD LESSENING THE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES AS ONE OF MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS FACING WORLD. MEXICO CONSIDERS ITSELF PART OF THEIR WORLD AND WILL FIGHT WITH IT. HE THEN LAUNCHED INTO LENGTHY ACCOUNT OF MEXICAN PLANS AND PROGRAMS TO RESTRUCTURE AND REFORM ITS ECONOMY, TO REGULATE FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, PROMOTE EXPORT MANUFACTURING AND INCREASE ITS TECHNOLOGY. FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE ECLA SHOULD CONCENTRATE ITS HELP IN THREE FIELDS: PREPARING FOR MT; FURTHERING ACASTD'S REGIONAL PLAN FOR APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPMENT, AND CONCENTRATING ON BASIC FACTORS AFFECTING SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

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